

SB 491 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Human Services

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Meeting Dates: 2/12, 2/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Transfers unobligated Community Housing Trust funds from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to the Oregon Community Foundation (the Foundation) for community housing for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Directs the Foundation to report to DHS annually regarding the use of funds and the remaining balance. Requires the Foundation to reimburse any unauthorized expenditures.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Fairview Trust
- Trends in interest accumulated by Fairview Trust
- Access to housing among individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Community Housing Trust administered by the Department of Human Services (DHS), commonly referred to as "the Fairview Trust" (the Trust), was established in 1999 through Senate Bill 405. It was funded through the sale of land following closure of the Fairview Training Center in 2000, where intellectually and developmentally disabled persons had been institutionalized since 1908. The majority of sale proceeds used to fund the Trust – 95 percent – are currently required to be held in an interest-bearing account in perpetuity. The remaining five percent of sale proceeds, plus interest on the corpus of the trust, are currently required to be used to support community housing for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Senate Bill 491 transfers unobligated Trust funds and the responsibility to use said funds for Trust purposes to the Oregon Community Foundation (the Foundation). The measure also directs the Foundation to report to DHS annually concerning the use of funds and the remaining balance, and to pay DHS for any unauthorized expenditures.